

Union Calendar No. 163

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2806

[Report No. 111-293]

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to adjust the boundary of the Stephen Mather Wilderness and the North Cascades National Park in order to allow the rebuilding of a road outside of the floodplain while ensuring that there is no net loss of acreage to the Park or the Wilderness, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 10, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

OCTOBER 8, 2009

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union
and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to adjust the boundary of the Stephen Mather Wilderness and the North Cascades National Park in order to allow the rebuilding of a road outside of the floodplain while ensuring that there is no net loss of acreage to the Park or the Wilderness, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds as follows:

5 (1) In 1988, 93 percent of the North Cascades
6 National Park Complex was designated the Stephen
7 Mather Wilderness.

8 (2) A road corridor was deliberately excluded
9 from the wilderness designation to provide for the
10 continued use and maintenance of the upper
11 Stehekin Valley Road.

12 (3) The upper Stehekin Valley Road provides
13 access to Stephen Mather Wilderness trailheads and
14 North Cascades National Park from the Lake Che-
15 lan National Recreation Area.

16 (4) Record flooding in 1995 and again in 2003
17 caused severe damage to the upper Stehekin Valley
18 Road and led to the closure of a 9.9-mile section of
19 the road between Car Wash Falls and Cottonwood
20 Camp.

21 (5) The National Park Service currently does
22 not have the flexibility to rebuild the upper Stehekin
23 Valley Road away from the Stehekin River due to
24 the current location of the non-wilderness road cor-
25 ridor provided by Congress in 1988.

1 (6) It is a high priority that the people of the
2 United States, including families, the disabled, and
3 the elderly, have reasonable access to the National
4 Parks system and their public lands.

5 (7) The 1995 Lake Chelan National Recreation
6 Area General Management Plan calls for retaining
7 vehicle access to Cottonwood Camp.

8 (8) Tourism associated with the North Cas-
9 cades National Park Complex is an important part
10 of the economy for rural communities in the area.

11 (9) Additional management flexibility would
12 allow the National Park Service to consider reten-
13 tion of the upper Stehekin Valley Road in a manner
14 that provides for no net loss of wilderness.

15 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION FOR BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS.**

16 The Washington Park Wilderness Act of 1988 (Pub-
17 lic Law 100–668) is amended by inserting after section
18 206 the following:

19 **“SEC. 207. BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR ROAD.**

20 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may adjust the
21 boundaries of the North Cascades National Park and the
22 Stephen Mather Wilderness in order to provide a 100-foot
23 wide corridor along which the Stehekin Valley Road may
24 be rebuilt—

1 “(1) outside of the floodplain between milepost
2 12.9 and milepost 22.8;

3 “(2) within the boundaries of the North Cas-
4 cades National Park; and

5 “(3) outside of the boundaries of the Stephen
6 Mather Wilderness.

7 “(b) NO NET LOSS OF LANDS.—The boundary ad-
8 justments made under this section shall be such that equal
9 acreage amounts are exchanged between the Stephen
10 Mather Wilderness and the North Cascades National
11 Park, resulting in no net loss of acreage to either the Ste-
12 phen Mather Wilderness or the North Cascades National
13 Park.”.

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